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### SB23-12/13: Legislative Agenda

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**The Associated Students of The University of Montana**  
**Resolution Regarding Legislative Agenda**  
**October 17, 2012**  
**SB23-12/13**

**Authored by: Sean Schilke, Student-At-Large; Gwendolyn Coon, ASUM Senator**  
**Sponsored by: Aaron Curtis, Student Political Action Director; Student Political Action Committee**

Whereas, faculty pay at The University of Montana is less than that of faculty pay at comparable universities and ranks 50<sup>th</sup> in the country on a state-by-state basis;

Whereas, a 2010 review showed faculty pay to be 83.9% of the average for comparable universities with full-time professor salary being only 80.4% of peer institutions;

Whereas, according to the 2011 HERI survey, UM faculty are significantly less satisfied with their salary (28.4% vs. 47.0%); their health benefits (40.6% vs. 72.3%); retirement benefits (30.3% vs. 67.1%); and opportunities for scholarly pursuits (41.3% vs. 60.0%), than at peer institutions;

Whereas, assistant professors in some departments can make as little as \$30,000 in full-time work;

Whereas, an investment in competitive salaries for our faculty is an investment in technical, skilled jobs that are needed as part of the Montana economy;

Whereas, increased faculty pay enhances the quality of professors that look to teach at The University of Montana;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that The Associated Students of The University of Montana (ASUM) identify faculty pay as an ongoing issue and promulgate the resolution of said issue as part of ASUM's 2012-2013 Legislative Agenda;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, that The Associated Students of The University of Montana will endorse legislative measures to reasonably raise faculty pay to enhance competitiveness of The University of Montana;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, that The Associated Students of The University of Montana instructs the ASUM Lobbyist to actively engage legislative members and implore the members of the Montana Legislature to allocate appropriate funds to ensure a competitive salary for faculty at The University of Montana.

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49 Passed by Committee: \_\_\_\_\_, 2012

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51 Passed by Senate: \_\_\_\_\_, 2012

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Damara Simpson,

56 Committee Chair

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Bryn Hagfors,

Chair of the Senate